

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 4, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 26, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1882**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Cooley  
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Dickinson)**

February 19, 2014

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An act to amend Sections 309, 361.45, 11450, *11461.3*, 11465, and 11477.02 of, and to add Section 13758 to, the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to social services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1882, as amended, Cooley. CalWORKs: relative caregivers.

Existing law requires each county to provide cash assistance and other social services to needy families through the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program using federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant program, state, and county funds. Existing law specifies the amounts of cash aid to be paid each month to CalWORKs recipients.

~~This bill would require that an infant supplement, as specified, be paid under the CalWORKs program to a teen parent who is placed with his or her child in the home of a relative caregiver and is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement or subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as provided.~~

Existing law establishes the Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) program, under which counties provide payments to foster care providers on behalf of qualified children in foster care. Under existing law, a child is eligible for AFDC-FC if he or she is placed in the approved home of a relative and is otherwise eligible for federal financial participation in the AFDC-FC payment, as specified. *Existing law, beginning January 1, 2015, establishes the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program in counties choosing to participate, for the purpose of making the amount paid to relative caregivers for the in-home care of children placed with them who are ineligible for AFDC-FC payments equal to the amount paid on behalf of children who are eligible for AFDC-FC payments.*

*This bill would require that an infant supplement, as specified, be paid under the CalWORKs program and the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program to a teen parent who is placed with his or her child in the home of a relative caregiver and is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement or subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as provided.*

Under existing law, if the county welfare department places a child who is in temporary custody or subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court with a relative or nonrelative extended family member, as defined, the county is required to evaluate and approve or deny the home for purposes of AFDC-FC eligibility.

This bill would additionally require the county to evaluate and approve or deny the home for purposes of CalWORKs eligibility if the child is found to be ineligible for AFDC-FC, and would require the placing agency to initiate the applications for AFDC-FC and ~~CalWORKs~~. *CalWORKs or the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program, as specified.* The bill would also require the county social worker or eligibility worker to explain to the relative, either in person or by telephone, the eligibility requirements and benefit amounts for the AFDC-FC and CalWORKs programs, *and the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program if the county has opted into the program,* as well as any actions the relative could take to affect the child's eligibility for those programs. By requiring county employees to provide these services, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law requires that every youth who is in foster care and nearing emancipation be screened by the county for potential eligibility for the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

This bill would require that every youth who is in foster care and has been determined to be ineligible for AFDC-FC benefits be screened by the county for potential eligibility for the SSI program. By imposing this additional duty on counties, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law continuously appropriates moneys from the General Fund to defray a portion of county costs under the CalWORKs program.

This bill would instead provide that the continuous appropriation would not be made for purposes of implementing the bill.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 309 of the Welfare and Institutions Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 309. (a) Upon delivery to the social worker of a child who has
- 4 been taken into temporary custody under this article, the social
- 5 worker shall immediately investigate the circumstances of the child
- 6 and the facts surrounding the child's being taken into custody and
- 7 attempt to maintain the child with the child's family through the
- 8 provision of services. The social worker shall immediately release
- 9 the child to the custody of the child's parent, guardian, or
- 10 responsible relative, regardless of the parent's, guardian's, or
- 11 relative's immigration status, unless one or more of the following
- 12 conditions exist:
- 13 (1) The child has no parent, guardian, or responsible relative;
- 14 or the child's parent, guardian, or responsible relative is not willing
- 15 to provide care for the child.
- 16 (2) Continued detention of the child is a matter of immediate
- 17 and urgent necessity for the protection of the child and there are
- 18 no reasonable means by which the child can be protected in his or
- 19 her home or the home of a responsible relative.

1 (3) There is substantial evidence that a parent, guardian, or  
2 custodian of the child is likely to flee the jurisdiction of the court.

3 (4) The child has left a placement in which he or she was placed  
4 by the juvenile court.

5 (5) The parent or other person having lawful custody of the  
6 child voluntarily surrendered physical custody of the child pursuant  
7 to Section 1255.7 of the Health and Safety Code and did not  
8 reclaim the child within the 14-day period specified in subdivision  
9 ~~(e)~~ (g) of that section.

10 (b) In any case in which there is reasonable cause for believing  
11 that a child who is under the care of a physician and surgeon or a  
12 hospital, clinic, or other medical facility and cannot be immediately  
13 moved and is a person described in Section 300, the child shall be  
14 deemed to have been taken into temporary custody and delivered  
15 to the social worker for the purposes of this chapter while the child  
16 is at the office of the physician and surgeon or the medical facility.

17 (c) If the child is not released to his or her parent or guardian,  
18 the child shall be deemed detained for purposes of this chapter.

19 (d) (1) If an able and willing relative, as defined in Section 319,  
20 or an able and willing nonrelative extended family member, as  
21 defined in Section 362.7, is available and requests temporary  
22 placement of the child pending the detention hearing, the county  
23 welfare department shall initiate an assessment of the relative's or  
24 nonrelative extended family member's suitability, which shall  
25 include an in-home inspection to assess the safety of the home and  
26 the ability of the relative or nonrelative extended family member  
27 to care for the child's needs, a consideration of the results of a  
28 criminal records check conducted pursuant to subdivision (a) of  
29 Section 16504.5, and a check of allegations of prior child abuse  
30 or neglect concerning the relative or nonrelative extended family  
31 member and other adults in the home. A relative's identification  
32 card from a foreign consulate or foreign passport shall be  
33 considered a valid form of identification for conducting a criminal  
34 records check and fingerprint clearance check under this  
35 subdivision. Upon completion of this assessment, the child may  
36 be placed in the assessed home. For purposes of this paragraph,  
37 and except for the criminal records check conducted pursuant to  
38 subdivision (a) of Section 16504.5, the standards used to determine  
39 suitability shall be the same standards set forth in the regulations  
40 for the licensing of foster family homes.

(2) Immediately following the placement of a child in the home of a relative or a nonrelative extended family member, the county welfare department shall evaluate and approve or deny the home for purposes of AFDC-FC eligibility pursuant to Section 11402 and CalWORKs eligibility pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 11250) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9. The placing agency shall immediately initiate the application for AFDC-FC and determine eligibility. If the child is found to be ineligible for AFDC-FC, the county shall initiate the application for and determine eligibility for ~~CalWORKs~~. *CalWORKs, or the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program if the child is placed with a relative and the county has opted into the program pursuant to Section 11461.3.* If the county determines that the child is not eligible for AFDC-FC benefits, the county welfare department shall explain the specific basis for this determination and shall immediately screen the child for eligibility for the federal Supplemental Security Income program in accordance with Section 13758. The application date for *the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program or CalWORKs* shall be the date the child was placed with the relative or nonrelative extended family member.

(3) The standards used to evaluate and grant or deny approval of the home of the relative and of the home of a nonrelative extended family member, as described in Section 362.7, shall be the same standards set forth in regulations for the licensing of foster family homes which prescribe standards of safety and sanitation for the physical plant and standards for basic personal care, supervision, and services provided by the caregiver.

(4) To the extent allowed by federal law, as a condition of receiving funding under Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 670 et seq.), if a relative or nonrelative extended family member meets all other conditions for approval, except for the receipt of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's criminal history information for the relative or nonrelative extended family member, and other adults in the home, as indicated, the county welfare department may approve the home and document that approval, if the relative or nonrelative extended family member, and each adult in the home, has signed and submitted a statement that he or she has never been convicted of a crime in the United States, other than a traffic infraction as defined in paragraph

1 (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 42001 of the Vehicle Code. If,  
2 after the approval has been granted, the department determines  
3 that the relative or nonrelative extended family member or other  
4 adult in the home has a criminal record, the approval may be  
5 terminated.

6 (5) If the criminal records check indicates that the person has  
7 been convicted of a crime for which the Director of Social Services  
8 cannot grant an exemption under Section 1522 of the Health and  
9 Safety Code, the child shall not be placed in the home. If the  
10 criminal records check indicates that the person has been convicted  
11 of a crime for which the Director of Social Services may grant an  
12 exemption under Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code, the  
13 child shall not be placed in the home unless a criminal records  
14 exemption has been granted by the county based on substantial  
15 and convincing evidence to support a reasonable belief that the  
16 person with the criminal conviction is of such good character as  
17 to justify the placement and not present a risk of harm to the child.

18 (e) (1) If the child is removed, the social worker shall conduct,  
19 within 30 days, an investigation in order to identify and locate all  
20 grandparents, adult siblings, and other adult relatives of the child,  
21 as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (f) of Section 319,  
22 including any other adult relatives suggested by the parents. The  
23 social worker shall provide to all adult relatives who are located,  
24 except when that relative's history of family or domestic violence  
25 makes notification inappropriate, within 30 days of removal of the  
26 child, written notification and shall also, whenever appropriate,  
27 provide oral notification, in person or by telephone, of all the  
28 following information:

29 (A) The child has been removed from the custody of his or her  
30 parent or parents, or his or her guardians.

31 (B) An explanation of the various options to participate in the  
32 care and placement of the child and support for the child's family,  
33 including any options that may be lost by failing to respond. The  
34 notice shall provide information about providing care for the child  
35 while the family receives reunification services with the goal of  
36 returning the child to the parent or guardian, how to become a  
37 foster family home or approved relative or nonrelative extended  
38 family member as defined in Section 362.7, and additional services  
39 and support that are available in out-of-home placements. The  
40 notice shall also include a summary of the eligibility requirements,

1 application procedures, and benefit amounts for the AFDC-FC  
2 program (Article 5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Chapter  
3 2 of Part 3 of Division 9), including a general description of any  
4 specialized care increments, as described in Section 11461, the  
5 Kin-GAP Program (Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 11360)  
6 of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9), the CalWORKs program for  
7 approved relative caregivers (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section  
8 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9), *the Approved Relative Caregiver*  
9 *Funding Option Program if the county has opted into the program*  
10 *under Section 11461.3*, adoption, and adoption assistance (Chapter  
11 2.1 (commencing with Section 16115) of Part 4 of Division 9), as  
12 well as other options for contact with the child, including, but not  
13 limited to, visitation. The State Department of Social Services, in  
14 consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association of  
15 California and other interested stakeholders, shall develop the  
16 written notice.

17 (2) The social worker shall also provide the adult relatives  
18 notified pursuant to paragraph (1) with a relative information form  
19 to provide information to the social worker and the court regarding  
20 the needs of the child. The form shall include a provision whereby  
21 the relative may request the permission of the court to address the  
22 court, if the relative so chooses. The Judicial Council, in  
23 consultation with the State Department of Social Services and the  
24 County Welfare Directors Association of California, shall develop  
25 the form.

26 (3) The social worker shall use due diligence in investigating  
27 the names and locations of the relatives pursuant to paragraph (1),  
28 including, but not limited to, asking the child in an age-appropriate  
29 manner about relatives important to the child, consistent with the  
30 child's best interest, and obtaining information regarding the  
31 location of the child's adult relatives. Each county welfare  
32 department shall create and make public a procedure by which  
33 relatives of a child who has been removed from his or her parents  
34 or guardians may identify themselves to the county welfare  
35 department and be provided with the notices required by paragraphs  
36 (1) and (2).

37 (f) In addition to the notice required by subdivision (e), if a  
38 relative requests placement of the child, the county social worker  
39 or eligibility worker shall explain to the relative, either in person  
40 or by telephone, the eligibility requirements and benefit amounts

1 for the AFDC-FC and CalWORKs programs, *and the Approved*  
2 *Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program if the county has*  
3 *opted into the program under Section 11461.3*, as well as any  
4 actions the relative could take to affect the child's eligibility for  
5 those programs.

6 SEC. 2. Section 361.45 of the Welfare and Institutions Code  
7 is amended to read:

8 361.45. (a) Notwithstanding any other ~~provision of law~~, when  
9 the sudden unavailability of a foster caregiver requires a change  
10 in placement on an emergency basis for a child who is under the  
11 jurisdiction of the juvenile court pursuant to Section 300, if an able  
12 and willing relative, as defined in Section 319, or an able and  
13 willing nonrelative extended family member, as defined in Section  
14 362.7, is available and requests temporary placement of the child  
15 pending resolution of the emergency situation, the county welfare  
16 department shall initiate an assessment of the relative's or  
17 nonrelative extended family member's suitability, which shall  
18 include an in-home inspection to assess the safety of the home and  
19 the ability of the relative or nonrelative extended family member  
20 to care for the child's needs, and a consideration of the results of  
21 a criminal records check conducted pursuant to Section 16504.5  
22 and a check of allegations of prior child abuse or neglect  
23 concerning the relative or nonrelative extended family member  
24 and other adults in the home. Upon completion of this assessment,  
25 the child may be placed in the assessed home. For purposes of this  
26 paragraph, and except for the criminal records check conducted  
27 pursuant to Section 16504.5, the standards used to determine  
28 suitability shall be the same standards set forth in the regulations  
29 for the licensing of foster family homes.

30 (b) Immediately following the placement of a child in the home  
31 of a relative or a nonrelative extended family member, the county  
32 welfare department shall evaluate and approve or deny the home  
33 for purposes of AFDC-FC eligibility pursuant to Section 11402  
34 and CalWORKs eligibility pursuant to Article 2 (commencing  
35 with Section 11250) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9. The  
36 placing agency shall immediately initiate the application for  
37 AFDC-FC and determine eligibility. If the child is found to be  
38 ineligible for AFDC-FC, the county shall initiate the application  
39 for and determine eligibility for ~~CalWORKs~~. *CalWORKs, or the*  
40 *Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program if the child*



1 *is placed with a relative and the county has opted into the program*  
2 *pursuant to Section 11461.3.* If the county determines that the child  
3 is not eligible for AFDC-FC benefits, the county welfare  
4 department shall explain the specific basis for this determination  
5 and shall immediately screen the child for eligibility for the federal  
6 Supplemental Security Income program in accordance with Section  
7 13758. If aid is granted under the AFDC-FC or CalWORKs  
8 program, the beginning date of aid shall be the date the child was  
9 placed with the relative or nonrelative extended family member.  
10 The application date for *the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding*  
11 *Option Program* or CalWORKs shall be the date the child was  
12 placed with the relative.

13 (c) The standards used to evaluate and grant or deny approval  
14 of the home of the relative and of the home of a nonrelative  
15 extended family member, as described in Section 362.7, shall be  
16 the same standards set forth in regulations for the licensing of  
17 foster family homes ~~which~~ *that* prescribe standards of safety and  
18 sanitation for the physical plant and standards for basic personal  
19 care, supervision, and services provided by the caregiver.

20 (d) If a relative or nonrelative extended family member, and  
21 other adults in the home, as indicated, meets all other conditions  
22 for approval, except for the receipt of the Federal Bureau of  
23 Investigation's criminal history information for the relative or  
24 nonrelative extended family member, the county welfare  
25 department may approve the home and document that approval,  
26 if the relative or nonrelative extended family member, and each  
27 adult in the home, has signed and submitted a statement that he or  
28 she has never been convicted of a crime in the United States, other  
29 than a traffic infraction as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision  
30 (a) of Section 42001 of the Vehicle Code. If, after the approval  
31 has been granted, the department determines that the relative or  
32 nonrelative extended family member or other adult in the home  
33 has a criminal record, the approval may be terminated.

34 (e) (1) If a nonminor dependent, as defined in subdivision (v)  
35 of Section 11400, is placed in the home of a relative or nonrelative  
36 extended family member, the home shall be approved using the  
37 same standards set forth in regulations as described in Section  
38 1502.7 of the Health and Safety Code.

39 (2) The department, in consultation with representatives of the  
40 Legislature, the County Welfare Directors Association, the Chief

1 Probation Officers of California, the California Youth Connection,  
2 the Judicial Council, former foster youth, child advocacy  
3 organizations, dependency counsel for children, juvenile justice  
4 advocacy organizations, foster caregiver organizations, labor  
5 organizations, and representatives of Indian tribes, shall revise  
6 regulations regarding health and safety standards for approving  
7 relative homes in which nonminor dependents, as defined in  
8 subdivision (v) of Section 11400, of the juvenile court are placed  
9 under the responsibility of the county welfare or probation  
10 department, or an Indian tribe that entered into an agreement  
11 pursuant to Section 10553.1.

12 (3) Notwithstanding the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter  
13 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of  
14 Title 2 of the Government Code), the department, in consultation  
15 with the stakeholders listed in paragraph (2), shall prepare for  
16 implementation of the applicable provisions of this section by  
17 publishing all-county letters or similar instructions from the director  
18 by October 1, 2011, to be effective January 1, 2012. Emergency  
19 regulations to implement this section may be adopted by the  
20 director in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The  
21 initial adoption of the emergency regulations and one readoption  
22 of the initial regulations shall be deemed to be an emergency and  
23 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace,  
24 health, safety, or general welfare. Initial emergency regulations  
25 and the first readoption of those emergency regulations shall be  
26 exempt from review by the Office of Administrative Law. The  
27 emergency regulations authorized by this section shall be submitted  
28 to the Office of Administrative Law for filing with the Secretary  
29 of State and shall remain in effect for no more than 180 days.

30 SEC. 3. Section 11450 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is  
31 amended to read:

32 11450. (a) (1) Aid shall be paid for each needy family, which  
33 shall include all eligible brothers and sisters of each eligible  
34 applicant or recipient child and the parents of the children, but  
35 shall not include unborn children, or recipients of aid under Chapter  
36 3 (commencing with Section 12000), qualified for aid under this  
37 chapter. In determining the amount of aid paid, and notwithstanding  
38 the minimum basic standards of adequate care specified in Section  
39 11452, the family's income, exclusive of any amounts considered  
40 exempt as income or paid pursuant to subdivision (e) or Section

11453.1, determined for the prospective semiannual period pursuant to Sections 11265.1, 11265.2, and 11265.3, and then calculated pursuant to Section 11451.5, shall be deducted from the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph (2). In no case shall the amount of aid paid for each month exceed the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph (2), plus any special needs, as specified in subdivisions (c), (e), (f), and (g):

Number of eligible needy persons in the same home	Maximum aid
1.....	\$ 326
2.....	535
3.....	663
4.....	788
5.....	899
6.....	1,010
7.....	1,109
8.....	1,209
9.....	1,306
10 or more.....	1,403

If, when, and during those times that the United States government increases or decreases its contributions in assistance of needy children in this state above or below the amount paid on July 1, 1972, the amounts specified in the above table shall be increased or decreased by an amount equal to that increase or decrease by the United States government, provided that no increase or decrease shall be subject to subsequent adjustment pursuant to Section 11453.

(2) The sums specified in paragraph (1) shall not be adjusted for cost of living for the 1990–91, 1991–92, 1992–93, 1993–94, 1994–95, 1995–96, 1996–97, and 1997–98 fiscal years, and through October 31, 1998, nor shall that amount be included in the base for calculating any cost-of-living increases for any fiscal year thereafter. Elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment pursuant

1 to this paragraph shall satisfy the requirements of former Section  
2 11453.05, and no further reduction shall be made pursuant to that  
3 section.

4 (b) (1) When the family does not include a needy child qualified  
5 for aid under this chapter, aid shall be paid to a pregnant mother  
6 who is 18 years of age or younger at any time after verification of  
7 pregnancy, in the amount that would otherwise be paid to one  
8 person, as specified in subdivision (a), if the mother, and child, if  
9 born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter. Verification  
10 of pregnancy shall be required as a condition of eligibility for aid  
11 under this subdivision.

12 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the family does not  
13 include a needy child qualified for aid under this chapter, aid shall  
14 be paid to a pregnant mother for the month in which the birth is  
15 anticipated and for the three-month period immediately prior to  
16 the month in which the birth is anticipated in the amount that would  
17 otherwise be paid to one person, as specified in subdivision (a), if  
18 the mother and child, if born, would have qualified for aid under  
19 this chapter. Verification of pregnancy shall be required as a  
20 condition of eligibility for aid under this subdivision.

21 (3) Paragraph (1) shall apply only when the Cal-Learn Program  
22 (Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 11331)) is operative.

23 (c) The amount of forty-seven dollars (\$47) per month shall be  
24 paid to pregnant mothers qualified for aid under subdivision (a)  
25 or (b) to meet special needs resulting from pregnancy if the mother,  
26 and child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter.  
27 County welfare departments shall refer all recipients of aid under  
28 this subdivision to a local provider of the Women, Infants and  
29 Children program described in Article 2 (commencing with Section  
30 123275) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and  
31 Safety Code. If that payment to pregnant mothers qualified for aid  
32 under subdivision (a) is considered income under federal law in  
33 the first five months of pregnancy, payments under this subdivision  
34 shall not apply to persons eligible under subdivision (a), except  
35 for the month in which birth is anticipated and for the three-month  
36 period immediately prior to the month in which delivery is  
37 anticipated, if the mother, and the child, if born, would have  
38 qualified for aid under this chapter.

39 (d) For children receiving AFDC-FC under this chapter, there  
40 shall be paid, exclusive of any amount considered exempt as

1 income, an amount of aid each month which, when added to the  
2 child's income, is equal to the rate specified in Section 11460,  
3 11461, 11462, 11462.1, or 11463. In addition, the child shall be  
4 eligible for special needs, as specified in departmental regulations.

5 (e) In addition to the amounts payable under subdivision (a)  
6 and Section 11453.1, a family shall be entitled to receive an  
7 allowance for recurring special needs not common to a majority  
8 of recipients. These recurring special needs shall include, but not  
9 be limited to, special diets upon the recommendation of a physician  
10 for circumstances other than pregnancy, and unusual costs of  
11 transportation, laundry, housekeeping services, telephone, and  
12 utilities. The recurring special needs allowance for each family  
13 per month shall not exceed that amount resulting from multiplying  
14 the sum of ten dollars (\$10) by the number of recipients in the  
15 family who are eligible for assistance.

16 (f) After a family has used all available liquid resources, both  
17 exempt and nonexempt, in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100),  
18 with the exception of funds deposited in a restricted account  
19 described in subdivision (a) of Section 11155.2, the family shall  
20 also be entitled to receive an allowance for nonrecurring special  
21 needs.

22 (1) An allowance for nonrecurring special needs shall be granted  
23 for replacement of clothing and household equipment and for  
24 emergency housing needs other than those needs addressed by  
25 paragraph (2). These needs shall be caused by sudden and unusual  
26 circumstances beyond the control of the needy family. The  
27 department shall establish the allowance for each of the  
28 nonrecurring special need items. The sum of all nonrecurring  
29 special needs provided by this subdivision shall not exceed six  
30 hundred dollars (\$600) per event.

31 (2) Homeless assistance is available to a homeless family  
32 seeking shelter when the family is eligible for aid under this  
33 chapter. Homeless assistance for temporary shelter is also available  
34 to homeless families which are apparently eligible for aid under  
35 this chapter. Apparent eligibility exists when evidence presented  
36 by the applicant, or which is otherwise available to the county  
37 welfare department, and the information provided on the  
38 application documents indicate that there would be eligibility for  
39 aid under this chapter if the evidence and information were verified.  
40 However, an alien applicant who does not provide verification of

1 his or her eligible alien status, or a woman with no eligible children  
2 who does not provide medical verification of pregnancy, is not  
3 apparently eligible for purposes of this section.

4 A family is considered homeless, for the purpose of this section,  
5 when the family lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence; or  
6 the family has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised  
7 publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary  
8 living accommodations; or the family is residing in a public or  
9 private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular  
10 sleeping accommodation for human beings. A family is also  
11 considered homeless for the purpose of this section if the family  
12 has received a notice to pay rent or quit. The family shall  
13 demonstrate that the eviction is the result of a verified financial  
14 hardship as a result of extraordinary circumstances beyond their  
15 control, and not other lease or rental violations, and that the family  
16 is experiencing a financial crisis that could result in homelessness  
17 if preventative assistance is not provided.

18 (A) (i) A nonrecurring special need of sixty-five dollars (\$65)  
19 a day shall be available to families of up to four members for the  
20 costs of temporary shelter, subject to the requirements of this  
21 paragraph. The fifth and additional members of the family shall  
22 each receive fifteen dollars (\$15) per day, up to a daily maximum  
23 of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125). County welfare  
24 departments may increase the daily amount available for temporary  
25 shelter as necessary to secure the additional bedspace needed by  
26 the family.

27 (ii) This special need shall be granted or denied immediately  
28 upon the family's application for homeless assistance, and benefits  
29 shall be available for up to three working days. The county welfare  
30 department shall verify the family's homelessness within the first  
31 three working days and if the family meets the criteria of  
32 questionable homelessness established by the department, the  
33 county welfare department shall refer the family to its early fraud  
34 prevention and detection unit, if the county has such a unit, for  
35 assistance in the verification of homelessness within this period.

36 (iii) After homelessness has been verified, the three-day limit  
37 shall be extended for a period of time which, when added to the  
38 initial benefits provided, does not exceed a total of 16 calendar  
39 days. This extension of benefits shall be done in increments of one  
40 week and shall be based upon searching for permanent housing

1 which shall be documented on a housing search form; good cause;  
2 or other circumstances defined by the department. Documentation  
3 of a housing search shall be required for the initial extension of  
4 benefits beyond the three-day limit and on a weekly basis thereafter  
5 as long as the family is receiving temporary shelter benefits. Good  
6 cause shall include, but is not limited to, situations in which the  
7 county welfare department has determined that the family, to the  
8 extent it is capable, has made a good faith but unsuccessful effort  
9 to secure permanent housing while receiving temporary shelter  
10 benefits.

11 (B) A nonrecurring special need for permanent housing  
12 assistance is available to pay for last month's rent and security  
13 deposits when these payments are reasonable conditions of securing  
14 a residence, or to pay for up to two months of rent arrearages, when  
15 these payments are a reasonable condition of preventing eviction.

16 The last month's rent or monthly arrearage portion of the  
17 payment (i) shall not exceed 80 percent of the family's total  
18 monthly household income without the value of CalFresh benefits  
19 or special needs for a family of that size and (ii) shall only be made  
20 to families that have found permanent housing costing no more  
21 than 80 percent of the family's total monthly household income  
22 without the value of CalFresh benefits or special needs for a family  
23 of that size.

24 However, if the county welfare department determines that a  
25 family intends to reside with individuals who will be sharing  
26 housing costs, the county welfare department shall, in appropriate  
27 circumstances, set aside the condition specified in clause (ii) of  
28 the preceding paragraph.

29 (C) The nonrecurring special need for permanent housing  
30 assistance is also available to cover the standard costs of deposits  
31 for utilities which are necessary for the health and safety of the  
32 family.

33 (D) A payment for or denial of permanent housing assistance  
34 shall be issued no later than one working day from the time that a  
35 family presents evidence of the availability of permanent housing.  
36 If an applicant family provides evidence of the availability of  
37 permanent housing before the county welfare department has  
38 established eligibility for aid under this chapter, the county welfare  
39 department shall complete the eligibility determination so that the  
40 denial of or payment for permanent housing assistance is issued

1 within one working day from the submission of evidence of the  
2 availability of permanent housing, unless the family has failed to  
3 provide all of the verification necessary to establish eligibility for  
4 aid under this chapter.

5 (E) (i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii), eligibility  
6 for the temporary shelter assistance and the permanent housing  
7 assistance pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to one period  
8 of up to 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance and  
9 one payment of permanent assistance. Any family that includes a  
10 parent or nonparent caretaker relative living in the home who has  
11 previously received temporary or permanent homeless assistance  
12 at any time on behalf of an eligible child shall not be eligible for  
13 further homeless assistance. Any person who applies for homeless  
14 assistance benefits shall be informed that the temporary shelter  
15 benefit of up to 16 consecutive days is available only once in a  
16 lifetime, with certain exceptions, and that a break in the consecutive  
17 use of the benefit constitutes permanent exhaustion of the  
18 temporary benefit.

19 (ii) A family that becomes homeless as a direct and primary  
20 result of a state or federally declared natural disaster shall be  
21 eligible for temporary and permanent homeless assistance.

22 (iii) A family shall be eligible for temporary and permanent  
23 homeless assistance when homelessness is a direct result of  
24 domestic violence by a spouse, partner, or roommate; physical or  
25 mental illness that is medically verified that shall not include a  
26 diagnosis of alcoholism, drug addiction, or psychological stress;  
27 or, the uninhabitability of the former residence caused by sudden  
28 and unusual circumstances beyond the control of the family  
29 including natural catastrophe, fire, or condemnation. These  
30 circumstances shall be verified by a third-party governmental or  
31 private health and human services agency, except that domestic  
32 violence may also be verified by a sworn statement by the victim,  
33 as provided under Section 11495.25. Homeless assistance payments  
34 based on these specific circumstances may not be received more  
35 often than once in any 12-month period. In addition, if the domestic  
36 violence is verified by a sworn statement by the victim, the  
37 homeless assistance payments shall be limited to two periods of  
38 not more than 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance  
39 and two payments of permanent assistance. A county may require  
40 that a recipient of homeless assistance benefits who qualifies under



1 this paragraph for a second time in a 24-month period participate  
2 in a homelessness avoidance case plan as a condition of eligibility  
3 for homeless assistance benefits. The county welfare department  
4 shall immediately inform recipients who verify domestic violence  
5 by a sworn statement pursuant to clause (iii) of the availability of  
6 domestic violence counseling and services, and refer those  
7 recipients to services upon request.

8 (iv) If a county requires a recipient who verifies domestic  
9 violence by a sworn statement to participate in a homelessness  
10 avoidance case plan pursuant to clause (iii), the plan shall include  
11 the provision of domestic violence services, if appropriate.

12 (v) If a recipient seeking homeless assistance based on domestic  
13 violence pursuant to clause (iii) has previously received  
14 homelessness avoidance services based on domestic violence, the  
15 county shall review whether services were offered to the recipient  
16 and consider what additional services would assist the recipient  
17 in leaving the domestic violence situation.

18 (vi) The county welfare department shall report to the  
19 department through a statewide homeless assistance payment  
20 indicator system, necessary data, as requested by the department,  
21 regarding all recipients of aid under this paragraph.

22 (F) The county welfare departments, and all other entities  
23 participating in the costs of the CalWORKs program, have the  
24 right in their share to any refunds resulting from payment of the  
25 permanent housing. However, if an emergency requires the family  
26 to move within the 12-month period specified in subparagraph  
27 (E), the family shall be allowed to use any refunds received from  
28 its deposits to meet the costs of moving to another residence.

29 (G) Payments to providers for temporary shelter and permanent  
30 housing and utilities shall be made on behalf of families requesting  
31 these payments.

32 (H) The daily amount for the temporary shelter special need for  
33 homeless assistance may be increased if authorized by the current  
34 year's Budget Act by specifying a different daily allowance and  
35 appropriating the funds therefor.

36 (I) No payment shall be made pursuant to this paragraph unless  
37 the provider of housing is a commercial establishment, shelter, or  
38 person in the business of renting properties who has a history of  
39 renting properties.

(g) A child who has been removed from his or her home and detained or placed in the home of a relative caregiver and is the subject of a petition filed under Section 300, 601, or 602, or is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement, as defined in subdivision (p) of Section 11400, and who is a teen parent whose child is living in the same home or placement, shall also receive an infant supplement, in an amount determined in the manner provided in subdivision (b) of Section 11465 for a child in a foster family home.

(h) The department shall establish rules and regulations ensuring the uniform application statewide of this section.

(i) The department shall notify all applicants and recipients of aid through the standardized application form that these benefits are available and shall provide an opportunity for recipients to apply for the funds quickly and efficiently.

(j) Except for the purposes of Section 15200, the amounts payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1 shall not constitute part of the payment schedule set forth in subdivision (a).

The amounts payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1 shall not constitute income to recipients of aid under this section.

(k) For children receiving Kin-GAP pursuant to Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 11360) or Article 4.7 (commencing with Section 11385) there shall be paid, exclusive of any amount considered exempt as income, an amount of aid each month, which, when added to the child's income, is equal to the rate specified in Sections 11364 and 11387.

(l) (1) This section shall become operative on April 1, 2013. A county shall implement the semiannual reporting requirements in accordance with Chapter 501 of the Statutes of 2011, no later than October 1, 2013.

(2) Upon implementation described in paragraph (1), each county shall provide a certificate to the director certifying that semiannual reporting has been implemented in the county.

(3) Upon filing the certificate described in paragraph (2), a county shall comply with the semiannual reporting provisions of this section.

*SEC. 4. Section 11461.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, as added by Section 74 of Chapter 29 of the Statutes of 2014, is amended to read:*

1 11461.3. (a) The Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option  
2 Program is hereby established for the purpose of making the  
3 amount paid to approved relative caregivers for the in-home care  
4 of children placed with them who are ineligible for AFDC-FC  
5 payments equal to the amount paid on behalf of children who are  
6 eligible for AFDC-FC payments. This is an optional program for  
7 counties choosing to participate, and in so doing, participating  
8 counties agree to the terms of this section as a condition of their  
9 participation. It is the intent of the Legislature that the funding  
10 described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) for the Approved  
11 Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program be appropriated, and  
12 available for use from January through December of each year,  
13 unless otherwise specified.

14 (b) Subject to subdivision (c), effective January 1, 2015, counties  
15 shall pay an approved relative caregiver a per child per month rate  
16 in return for the care and supervision, as defined in subdivision  
17 (b) of Section 11460, of a child that is placed with the relative  
18 caregiver that is equal to the basic rate paid to foster care providers  
19 pursuant to subdivision (g) of Section 11461, if both of the  
20 following conditions are met:

21 (1) The county with payment responsibility has notified the  
22 department in writing by October 1 of the year before participation  
23 begins of its decision to participate in the Approved Relative  
24 Caregiver Funding Option Program.

25 (2) The related child placed in the home meets all of the  
26 following requirements:

27 (A) The child resides in the State of California.

28 (B) The child is described by subdivision (b), (c), or (e) of  
29 Section 11401 and is not eligible for AFDC-FC pursuant to  
30 subdivision (a) of Section 11404.

31 (C) The child is not eligible for AFDC-FC while placed with  
32 the approved relative caregiver because the child is not eligible  
33 for federal financial participation in the AFDC-FC payment.

34 (c) A county's election to participate in the Approved Relative  
35 Caregiver Funding Option Program shall affirmatively indicate  
36 that the county understands and agrees to all of the following  
37 conditions:

38 (1) Commencing October 1, 2014, the county shall notify the  
39 department in writing of its decision to participate in the Approved  
40 Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program. Failure to make

1 timely notification, without good cause as determined by the  
2 department, shall preclude the county from participating in the  
3 program for the upcoming year. Annually thereafter, any county  
4 not presently participating who elects to do so shall notify the  
5 department in writing no later than October 1 of its decision to  
6 participate for the upcoming calendar year.

7 (2) The county shall confirm that it will make per child per  
8 month payments to all approved relative caregivers on behalf of  
9 eligible children in the amount specified in subdivision (b) for the  
10 duration of the participation of the county in this program.

11 (3) The county shall confirm that it will be solely responsible  
12 to pay any additional costs needed to make all payments pursuant  
13 to subdivision (b) if the state and federal funds allocated to the  
14 Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program pursuant  
15 to paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) are insufficient to make all  
16 eligible payments.

17 (d) (1) A county deciding to opt out of the Approved Relative  
18 Caregiver Funding Option Program shall provide at least 120 days'  
19 prior written notice of that decision to the department. Additionally,  
20 the county shall provide at least 90 days' prior written notice to  
21 the approved relative caregiver or caregivers informing them that  
22 his or her per child per month payment will be reduced and the  
23 date that the reduction will occur.

24 (2) The department shall presume all counties have opted out  
25 of the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program if  
26 the funding appropriated in subclause (II) of clause (i) of  
27 subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), including  
28 any additional funds appropriated pursuant to clause (ii) of  
29 subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), is reduced,  
30 unless a county notifies the department in writing of its intent to  
31 opt in within 60 days of enactment of the state budget. The counties  
32 shall provide at least 90 days' prior written notice to the approved  
33 relative caregiver or caregivers informing them that his or her per  
34 child per month payment will be reduced, and the date that the  
35 reduction will occur.

36 (3) Any reduction in payments received by an approved relative  
37 caregiver on behalf of a child under this section that results from  
38 a decision by a county, including the presumed opt-out pursuant  
39 to paragraph (2), to not participate in the Approved Relative

Caregiver Funding Option Program shall be exempt from state hearing jurisdiction under Section 10950.

(e) (1) The following funding shall be used for the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program:

(A) The applicable regional per-child CalWORKs grant from federal funds received as part of the TANF block grant program.

(B) (i) General Fund resources that do not count toward the state's maintenance of effort requirements under Section 609(a)(7)(B)(i) of Title 42 of the United States Code. For this purpose, the following money is hereby appropriated:

(I) The sum of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) from the General Fund for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

(II) The sum of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) from the General Fund in each calendar year thereafter, as cumulatively adjusted annually by the California Necessities Index used for each May Revision of the Governor's Budget, to be used in each respective calendar year.

(ii) To the extent that the appropriation made in subclause (I) is insufficient to fully fund the base caseload of approved relative caregivers as of July 1, 2014, for the period of time described in subclause (I), as jointly determined by the department and the County Welfare Directors' Association and approved by the Department of Finance on or before October 1, 2015, the amounts specified in subclauses (I) and (II) shall be increased in the respective amounts necessary to fully fund that base caseload. Thereafter, the adjusted amount of subclause (II), and the other terms of that provision, including an annual California Necessities Index adjustment to its amount, shall apply.

(C) County funds only to the extent required under paragraph (3) of subdivision (c).

(D) This section is intended to appropriate the funding necessary to fully fund the base caseload of approved relative caregivers, defined as the number of approved relative caregivers caring for a child who is not eligible to receive AFDC-FC payments, as of July 1, 2014.

(2) Funds available pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) shall be allocated to participating counties proportionate to the number of their approved relative caregiver placements, using a methodology and timing developed by the

1 department, following consultation with county human services  
2 agencies and their representatives.

3 (3) Notwithstanding subdivision (c), if in any calendar year the  
4 entire amount of funding appropriated by the state for the Approved  
5 Relative Caregiver Funding Option Program has not been fully  
6 allocated to or utilized by counties, a county that has paid any  
7 funds pursuant to subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision  
8 (e) may request reimbursement for those funds from the  
9 department. The authority of the department to approve the requests  
10 shall be limited by the amount of available unallocated funds.

11 (f) An approved relative caregiver receiving payments on behalf  
12 of a child pursuant to this section shall not be eligible to receive  
13 additional CalWORKs payments on behalf of the same child under  
14 Section 11450.

15 (g) To the extent permitted by federal law, payments received  
16 by the approved relative caregiver from the Approved Relative  
17 Caregiver Funding Option Program shall not be considered income  
18 for the purpose of determining other public benefits.

19 (h) Prior to referral of any individual or recipient, or that  
20 person's case, to the local child support agency for child support  
21 services pursuant to Section 17415 of the Family Code, the county  
22 human services agency shall determine if an applicant or recipient  
23 has good cause for noncooperation, as set forth in Section  
24 11477.04. If the applicant or recipient claims good cause exception  
25 at any subsequent time to the county human services agency or  
26 the local child support agency, the local child support agency shall  
27 suspend child support services until the county social services  
28 agency determines the good cause claim, as set forth in Section  
29 11477.04. If good cause is determined to exist, the local child  
30 support agency shall suspend child support services until the  
31 applicant or recipient requests their resumption, and shall take  
32 other measures that are necessary to protect the applicant or  
33 recipient and the children. If the applicant or recipient is the parent  
34 of the child for whom aid is sought and the parent is found to have  
35 not cooperated without good cause as provided in Section  
36 11477.04, the applicant's or recipient's family grant shall be  
37 reduced by 25 percent for the time the failure to cooperate lasts.

38 (i) Consistent with Section 17552 of the Family Code, if aid is  
39 paid under this chapter on behalf of a child who is under the  
40 jurisdiction of the juvenile court and whose parent or guardian is

1 receiving reunification services, the county human services agency  
2 shall determine, prior to referral of the case to the local child  
3 support agency for child support services, whether the referral is  
4 in the best interest of the child, taking into account both of the  
5 following:

6 (1) Whether the payment of support by the parent will pose a  
7 barrier to the proposed reunification in that the payment of support  
8 will compromise the parent's ability to meet the requirements of  
9 the parent's reunification plan.

10 (2) Whether the payment of support by the parent will pose a  
11 barrier to the proposed reunification in that the payment of support  
12 will compromise the parent's current or future ability to meet the  
13 financial needs of the child.

14 *(j) A child who has been removed from his or her home and*  
15 *detained or placed in the home of a relative caregiver and is the*  
16 *subject of a petition filed under Section 300, 601, or 602, or is the*  
17 *subject of a voluntary placement agreement, as defined in*  
18 *subdivision (p) of Section 11400, and who is a teen parent whose*  
19 *child is living in the same home or placement, shall also receive*  
20 *an infant supplement, in an amount determined in the manner*  
21 *provided in subdivision (b) of Section 11465 for a child in a foster*  
22 *family home.*

23 ~~SEC. 4.~~

24 SEC. 5. Section 11465 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is  
25 amended to read:

26 11465. (a) When a child is living with a parent who receives  
27 AFDC-FC or Kin-GAP benefits, the rate paid to the provider on  
28 behalf of the parent shall include an infant supplement to cover  
29 the cost of care and supervision of the child.

30 (b) For each category of eligible licensed community care  
31 facility, as defined in Section 1502 of the Health and Safety Code,  
32 the department shall adopt regulations setting forth a uniform rate  
33 to cover the cost of care and supervision of the child in each  
34 category of eligible licensed community care facility.

35 (c) (1) On and after July 1, 1998, the uniform rate to cover the  
36 cost of care and supervision of a child pursuant to this section shall  
37 be increased by 6 percent, rounded to the nearest dollar. The  
38 resultant amounts shall constitute the new uniform rate.

39 (2) (A) On and after July 1, 1999, the uniform rate to cover the  
40 cost of care and supervision of a child pursuant to this section shall

1 be adjusted by an amount equal to the California Necessities Index  
2 computed pursuant to Section 11453, rounded to the nearest dollar.  
3 The resultant amounts shall constitute the new uniform rate, subject  
4 to further adjustment pursuant to subparagraph (B).

5 (B) In addition to the adjustment specified in subparagraph (A),  
6 on and after January 1, 2000, the uniform rate to cover the cost of  
7 care and supervision of a child pursuant to this section shall be  
8 increased by 2.36 percent, rounded to the nearest dollar. The  
9 resultant amounts shall constitute the new uniform rate.

10 (3) Subject to the availability of funds, for the 2000–01 fiscal  
11 year and annually thereafter, these rates shall be adjusted for cost  
12 of living pursuant to procedures in Section 11453.

13 (4) On and after January 1, 2008, the uniform rate to cover the  
14 cost of care and supervision of a child pursuant to this section shall  
15 be increased by 5 percent, rounded to the nearest dollar. The  
16 resulting amount shall constitute the new uniform rate.

17 (d) (1) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (c), inclusive, the  
18 payment made pursuant to this section for care and supervision of  
19 a child who is living with a teen parent in a whole family foster  
20 home, as defined in Section 11400, shall equal the basic rate for  
21 children placed in a licensed or approved home as specified in  
22 subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, and subdivision (g), of Section  
23 11461.

24 (2) The amount paid for care and supervision of a dependent  
25 infant living with a dependent teen parent receiving AFDC-FC  
26 benefits in a group home placement shall equal the infant  
27 supplement rate for group home placements.

28 (3) The caregiver shall provide the county child welfare agency  
29 or probation department with a copy of the shared responsibility  
30 plan developed pursuant to Section 16501.25 and shall advise the  
31 county child welfare agency or probation department of any  
32 subsequent changes to the plan. Once the plan has been completed  
33 and provided to the appropriate agencies, the payment made  
34 pursuant to this section shall be increased by an additional two  
35 hundred dollars (\$200) per month to reflect the increased care and  
36 supervision while he or she is placed in the whole family foster  
37 home.

38 (4) In any year in which the payment provided pursuant to this  
39 section is adjusted for the cost of living as provided in paragraph



1 (1) of subdivision (c), the payments provided for in this subdivision  
2 shall also be increased by the same procedures.

3 (5) A Kin-GAP relative who, immediately prior to entering the  
4 Kin-GAP program, was designated as a whole family foster home  
5 shall receive the same payment amounts for the care and  
6 supervision of a child who is living with a teen parent they received  
7 in foster care as a whole family foster home.

8 (6) On and after January 1, 2012, the rate paid for a child living  
9 with a teen parent in a whole family foster home as defined in  
10 Section 11400 shall also be paid for a child living with a nonminor  
11 dependent parent who is eligible to receive AFDC-FC or Kin-GAP  
12 pursuant to Section 11403.

13 ~~SEC. 5.~~

14 *SEC. 6.* Section 11477.02 of the Welfare and Institutions Code  
15 is amended to read:

16 11477.02. (a) Prior to referral of any individual or recipient,  
17 or that person's case, to the local child support agency for child  
18 support services under Section 17400 or 17404 of the Family Code,  
19 the county welfare department shall determine if an applicant or  
20 recipient has good cause for noncooperation, as set forth in Section  
21 11477.04. If the applicant or recipient claims a good cause  
22 exception at any subsequent time to the county welfare department  
23 or the local child support agency, the local child support agency  
24 shall suspend child support services until the county welfare  
25 department determines the good cause claim, as set forth in Section  
26 11477.04. If good cause is determined to exist, the local child  
27 support agency shall suspend child support services until the  
28 applicant or recipient requests their resumption, and shall take  
29 such other measures as are necessary to protect the applicant or  
30 recipient and the children. If the applicant or recipient is the parent  
31 of the child for whom aid is sought and the parent is found to have  
32 not cooperated without good cause as provided in Section  
33 11477.04, the applicant's or recipient's family grant shall be  
34 reduced by 25 percent for such time as the failure to cooperate  
35 lasts.

36 (b) Consistent with Section 17552 of the Family Code, if aid is  
37 paid under this chapter on behalf of a child who is under the  
38 jurisdiction of the juvenile court and whose parent or guardian is  
39 receiving reunification services, the county welfare department  
40 shall determine, prior to referral of the case to the local child

1 support agency for child support services, whether the referral is  
2 in the best interest of the child, taking into account both of the  
3 following:

4 (1) Whether the payment of support by the parent will pose a  
5 barrier to the proposed reunification in that the payment of support  
6 will compromise the parent's ability to meet the requirements of  
7 the parent's reunification plan.

8 (2) Whether the payment of support by the parent will pose a  
9 barrier to the proposed reunification in that the payment of support  
10 will compromise the parent's current or future ability to meet the  
11 financial needs of the child.

12 ~~SEC. 6.~~

13 *SEC. 7.* Section 13758 is added to the Welfare and Institutions  
14 Code, to read:

15 13758. (a) Every youth who is in foster care and has been  
16 determined to be ineligible for AFDC-FC benefits shall be screened  
17 by the county for potential eligibility for the federal Supplemental  
18 Security Income program utilizing the best practice guidelines  
19 developed pursuant to Section 13752.

20 (b) An application shall be submitted to the federal Social  
21 Security Administration on behalf of a youth who is screened as  
22 being likely to be eligible for federal Supplemental Security Income  
23 benefits.

24 ~~SEC. 7.~~

25 *SEC. 8.* No appropriation pursuant to Section 15200 of the  
26 Welfare and Institutions Code shall be made for purposes of  
27 implementing this act.

28 ~~SEC. 8.~~

29 *SEC. 9.* If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
30 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
31 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
32 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
33 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.